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# DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

LOS ANGELES DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS P.O. BOX 592711 LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90053-2325

March 3, 2005

Coastal Conservancy Chair, Douglas Bosco 1330 Broadway, 11floor Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Support for the Compton Creek Watershed Plan Implementation Grant

Dear Mr. Bosco:

The US Army Corps of Engineers supports your authorization of a grant for the Compton Creek Watershed Plan implementation process. The Corps of Engineers is one of many participants in the Compton Creek community. We are involved in the Compton Creek Task force, and have done work to help improve the utility of the Creek to the community. Much more can be done with the Creek to provide greater value to the community and we support the local efforts of groups like the Los Angeles & San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council and Heal the Bay for this end.

Thank you. Sincerely,

Ruth Villalobos

Director, LA District Planning Division

US Army Corps of Engineers

Exhibit 2: Letters of Support BARBARA J. CALHOUN
Councilwoman District 1

(310) 605-5590 Fax. (310) 605-5449

March 1, 2005

Douglas Bosco Chairman Coastal Conservancy 11th Floor, 1330 Broadway Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Support for the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council

Dear Mr. Bosco:

My name is Barbara J. Calhoun, and I am Councilwoman for the 1<sup>st</sup> District of the City of Compton. I am writing in support of the proposal submitted by Coastal Conservancy Staff for the continued involvement of Heal the Bay and the Los Angeles & San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council to initiate implementation of the Compton Creek Watershed Management Plan and develop a community awareness and environmental education strategy for the Compton Creek watershed. The City of Compton strives to be an affluent, self reliant, and safe community, and has set environmental stewardship as a top priority. Several of the goals in the City of Compton's mission statement pertain to implementing watershed restoration and recreation projects, but three are especially pertinent to the main focus of the Coastal Conservancy staff proposal. These are:

- Beautify the City and Enhance its Infrastructure.
- Enhance and Sustain a Vibrant Economy.
- Stimulate Public Awareness and Social Empowerment for Citizens of all Ages, Races, and Cultures.

Demonstration projects would add to our inventory of community amenities including parks, public art, gateways, gathering spaces, and the recently completed bike and horse trail along Compton Creek. Our goal of enhancing our economy is to attract industry and employment to the city of Compton, but sustaining our economy requires the retention of these businesses and the personal choices of their employees to live in the City of Compton—additional community amenities can only help this goal.

COMPTON CITY HALL

205 South Willowbrook Avenue Compton, California 90220



City of Compton
OFFICE OF CITY COUNCIL

BARBARA J. CALHOUN Councilwoman District 1

> (310) 605-5590 Fax. (310) 605-5449

Finally, the current state of the Creek is such that many of our citizens are not even aware of its existence. Organizing people concerned with public health, safety, and environmental justice issues is a top priority for the city. Furthermore, The friends of Compton Creek stands ready to develop into a locally based environmental group. The Friends of Compton Creek will ultimately identify and advocate for projects that will improve water quality, and enhance recreational opportunities and habitat in the Compton Creek Watershed.

The proposed funding would implement projects supporting several of our adopted goals. From that perspective, we strongly endorse this effort.

I deeply appreciated your assistance in this effort and feel free to give me a call at (310) 605-5534. Thank you for your favorable consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

BARBARA J. CALHOUN

COUNCILWOMAN, DISTRICT 1

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Note: The City of Compton's determination that a proposal is consistent with its mission and goals and worthy of support does not imply that individual departments within the City have reviewed, the proposal.

COMPTON CITY HALL

205 South Willowbrook Avenue Compton, California 90220



February 28, 2005

Coastal Conservancy Douglas Bosco, Chair 1330 Broadway, 11floor Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Support for the Compton Creek Watershed Plan Implementation Grant

Dear Mr. Bosco:

Heal the Bay is pleased to express its support for Compton Creek Watershed Plan Implementation Grant. The authorization of funds will allow the Los Angeles & San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council to complete the Compton Creek Watershed Management Plan implementation strategy and identify demonstration projects. The authorization of funds for Heal the Bay will allow us to provide project coordination in the Compton Creek watershed and to move the watershed management planning phase to the implementation phase. Heal the Bay will continue to develop and enhance partnerships with watershed cities, community groups, Compton College and Cal-State Dominguez Hills

tel 310 453 0395

Heal the Bay strongly supports the California Coastal Conservancy's efforts to reinforce the work of the LASGRWC and Heal the Bay with the following objectives: develop projects that will improve water quality that will benefit the Compton Creek Watershed and the Los Angeles River and Los Angeles Harbor/San Pedro Bay areas; expand community building, education and Compton Creek stewardship efforts within the watershed; assist in the creation of new open spaces, habitat and parks in areas of significant need; develop a final detailed plan for restoration of habitat; and provide an implementation strategy for a river parkway in the Compton Creek watershed.

Please give the Compton Creek Watershed Plan Implementation Grant proposal your fullest consideration.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

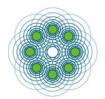
Mark Gold D. Env. Executive Director

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# Exhibit 2: Letters of Support

March 2, 2005

Douglas Bosco Chairman Coastal Conservancy 11th Floor, 1330 Broadway Oakland, CA 94612



Reference: Support for Coastal Conservancy Funding for Compton Creek Watershed Planning

Dear Chariman Bosco:

The Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council is pleased to express our support for the proposed continuation of funding for outreach, capacity building, and project identification for the Compton Creek Watershed Plan.

The Compton Creek Watershed Plan is nearing completion, but in many ways, watershed management is just beginning in this under-served subwatershed of the Los Angeles River. Unlike other watersheds that have a cadre of well-informed, interested stakeholders with time and knowledge to move watershed planning forward, this planning process has been to educate residents about what watershed management is, and what it can be for their community. The grant from the Coastal Conservancy, and support from your staff, will help bridge the gap between planning and implementation. By continuing this process, we can help ensure that this is not a "one-time effort," but rather an ongoing commitment to this community to improve the environment and quality of life. Equally important, I believe, is to show that the state's resources, through the work of the Coastal Conservancy, are available to all residents of the state, not just those who are already fortunate to live in healthy ecosystems.

We appreciate the Coastal Conservancy's commitment to environmental justice and leadership in developing resources for the improvement of coastal watersheds. If you have any questions regarding our comments, please contact me at (213)228-8221 or Suzanne Dallman , the Watershed Council's Interim Executive Director.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Bullard, President

CC:

Note: This endorsement by the Watershed Council is consistent with our Mission and Vision but does not imply that individual agencies or organizations participating in the Council also endorsed the comments expressed herein. Attached for your reference is a statement of our Mission and Vision.

# **LASGRWC Mission & Vision**

#### Who We Are:

The Watershed Council is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization incorporated in 1996. The 18-member Board of Directors is required by our By-Laws to be comprised of six categories of stakeholders, including:

- environmental organizations and community groups,
- government agencies at all levels,
- educational institutions and professional associations,
- business groups and property owners,
- water and wastewater agencies, and
- the general public.

### Our Mission:

to facilitate a comprehensive, multipurpose, stakeholder-driven consensus process to preserve, restore, and enhance the many beneficial uses - economic, social, environmental and biological - of the Los Angeles River and San Gabriel River watersheds ecosystem through education, research, planning, and mediation.

### Our 25-Year Vision for the Watersheds:

acting together, our communities and our watershed will be renewed through an integrated and cooperative approach to restoring the environment and the economy, creating a more livable future with regard to:

## Water Supply

Using all of our water resources efficiently.

### Water Quality

 Improving water quality to support boating, fishing and swimming in the rivers and at the beach.

### Natural Resources

- Managing the forest for water supply and quality.
- · Restoring habitat for fish, birds, and wildlife.

### Urban Quality of Life

- Celebrating our rivers with greenway/bikeways, habitat, recreation areas, and interpretive signs.
- Re-developing urban zones with offices, shops and cafes.
- Creating truly livable communities around the revitalized rivers.

### Integrated Management & Sustainability

Managing the watershed for economic vitality, environmental health and sustainability.

#### **Our Current Initiatives:**

In service to our stakeholders, we have formed the following strategic committees:

- Water Quality
- Landscape Ethic
- GIS Coordination
- Funding / Economics
- Education / Outreach

For further information, see our web site at <www.LASGRWC.org>.